

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

3/A PD 2//3/03

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

TAKAFUMI HOSHIZAWA ET AL

: EXAMINER: S. A. CHANG

SERIAL NO: 09/619,672

: GROUP: 3625

FILED: JULY 19, 2000

FOR: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR

KEEPING CONSUMABLE ITEMS

IN AN IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS WASHINGTON, DC 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated November 4, 2002, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice Claim 7.

Please amend claims 1, 11, 12, 17, 20, 21 and 23 as shown in clean form below. A marked-up copy of the amended claims is attached.

1. (Amended) A consumable item/keeping system, comprising:

a consumable item keeping apparatus configured to store a variety of consumable

items at a user side;

FEB 0 7 2003

GROUP 3600